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TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 5026
INFO RUEHZL/EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE
RUEHRC/DEPT OF AGRICULTURE WASHDC

UNCLAS RIGA 000356

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [EAGR](#) [ECON](#) [ETRD](#) [TBIO](#) [KPAO](#) [LG](#)

SUBJECT: LATVIA: NO POSITION YET ON U.S. CODEX CANDIDATE

REF: State 50336

Post delivered reftel demarche via diplomatic note to the MFA on May 22, requesting Latvian support for Dr. Hulebak's candidacy for Chairperson of the Codex Alimentarius Commission. In addition, last week post delivered U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Schafer's letter supporting Dr. Hulebak's candidacy to Agriculture Minister Martins Roze. Post has followed up with the MFA's International Organizations Division on numerous occasions to determine Latvia's position on Dr. Hulebak's candidacy, but to date, the MFA states that no position has been reached. Sarmite Danne, Acting Head of the International Organizations Division, stated on June 16 that the MFA continues to await input from the Agriculture Ministry and expects a determination shortly on whether Latvia will support the U.S. candidate.